

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/981,084

Examiner

Jason Skaarup

Applicant(s)

GLAVICH ET AL.

Art Unit

3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3 May 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-29 and 31-38.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 October 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date May 3, 2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. The Examiner received authorization for the examiner's amendment from Mr. Adam Masia on February 23, 2005. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

On page 1, line 3, "now U.S. Patent No. 6,439,995, " has been added after "filed on September 7, 2000, "and before "entitled "GAMING DEVICE HAVING A BONUS SCHEME WITH MULTIPLE SELECTION GROUPS".

In claim 13, line 17, following "outcome; " "and" has been deleted.

In claim 13, last line, the "." has been deleted and -- ; and (f) terminates the bonus game if a termination outcome associated with the selected symbol occurs. -- has been substituted therefore for clarity.

In claim 16, line 1, "termination condition" has been deleted and -- termination outcome -- has been substituted therefore for clarity.

In claim 17, line 1, "termination condition" has been deleted and -- termination outcome -- has been substituted therefore for clarity.

In claim 27, lines 19-20, "having a win-group outcome" has been deleted and -- associated with the termination outcome -- has been substituted therefore for clarity.

Claim 30 has been cancelled.

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Allowable Subject Matter

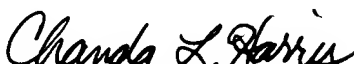
1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record, whether considered alone or in combination, does not teach an apparatus and method for associating a plurality of bonus values in a group with at least one win-group outcome including a change group outcome and a plurality of bonus values in the group, for providing the player with the at least one win-group outcome and for terminating the bonus game when the win-group outcome is associated with a selected symbol picked by a player as recited in claims 1-29 and 31-38.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Jason Skaarup whose telephone number is 571-272-4455. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (8:00-6:00).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Primary, Jessica Harrison can be reached on 571-272-4449. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


CHANDA L. HARRIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER